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PTQ2467

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ACTION INR-00

INFO	LOG-00	NP-00	AID-00	A-00	ACQ-00	CIAE-00	INL-00
	DODE-00	WHA-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EAP-00	UTED-00	VC-00
	TEDE-00	IO-00	LAB-01	VCE-00	AC-01	DCP-01	NSAE-00
	OIC-02	ACE-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TEST-00	USIE-00	IIP-00
	DSCC-00	DRL-02	NFAT-00	SAS-00	/007W		
					-----COCA63	211732Z /38	

O 211731Z JUN 02

FM AMEMBASSY QUITO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1985

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

DIRONDPC WASHDC

USCINCSO MIAMI FL

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 QUITO 002083

STATE FOR INR/R/MR, WHA, WHA/AND, WHA/PDA

DIRONDPC FOR PA

EMBASSIES FOR PAO/IO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL, OPRC, KIRC, KPAO, EC

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: CAMPAIGN AGAINST

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TERRORISM: QUITO

1. SUMMARY. COMBINING BAD JOURNALISM AND BAD WRITING, WE OPEN WITH FORMER IV GRANTEE AND CURRENT TV NEWS DIRECTOR CARLOS JIJON'S, DIATRIBE AGAINST THE U.S. PLOT TO OVERTHROW VENEZUELAN PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ (AS ALLEGEDLY REPORTED BY THE WASHINGTON POST), IN WHICH HE ALSO MANAGES TO IMPUGN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE KENNEY AND HER HUSBAND. THE SECOND ARTICLE TARGETS THE NON-STATESMANLIKE PRESIDENT OF THE U.S., FOR USING FEAR TO CURB CIVIL RIGHTS AND TO INITIATE THE "DECLINE OF THE EMPIRE OF FREE MEN". WE CLOSE WITH A SLIGHTLY KINDER ASSESSMENT OF WORLD AFFAIRS IN WHICH A RETURN TO GRAND ALLIANCES IS FORESEEN AS THE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L MILLS

DATE/CASE ID: 25 APR 2005 200400109

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PURVEYOR OF SECURITY FOR SMALL STATES IN A WORLD IN WHICH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN TERRORISTS AND THE STATES THAT SUPPORT THEM. END SUMMARY.

2. "THE RETURN OF THE GARROTE," AN OPINION COLUMN (06/20) BY CARLOS JIJON IN QUITO'S CENTER-LEFT (INFLUENTIAL) "HOY" (CIRC. 25,000)

QUOTE: "THE PRESS HAS BEGUN TO REPORT ON . . . THE UPCOMING ARRIVAL OF THE NEW APPOINTED AMBASSADOR (TO ECUADOR) KRISTIE KENNEY, WHO IS AT PRESENT THE HIGHEST RANKING COUNSELOR TO THE U.S. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NARCOTIC AFFAIRS AND MARRIED TO AMBASSADOR WILLIAMS BROWNFIELD, ONE OF THE PROPONENTS OF PLAN COLOMBIA.

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"THE ARRIVAL OF MRS. KENNEY, IN THE FOLLOWING MONTHS, REFLECTS THE FACT THAT U.S. FOREIGN POLICY IS TAKING A 180 DEGREE TURN. IN THE LIGHT OF THE LATEST WORLD EVENTS, EVERYTHING SEEMS TO INDICATE THAT THE BUSH ADMINISTRATION HAS DECIDED TO REPLACE HIS NATION'S MORAL LEADERSHIP OF DEMOCRACY AND FREEDOM, FOR ANOTHER ONE AIMED ONLY AT SUPREMACY.

"THE CONSPIRACY UNVEILED BY THE WASHINGTON POST (WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ANTITERRORIST CAMPAIGN AGAINST AL-QAIDA) GREATLY RESEMBLES WHAT IS HAPPENING IN VENEZUELA AGAINST PRESIDENT HUGO CHAVEZ (WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF PLAN COLOMBIA). ONCE THE COUP FAILED, OPPOSITION TOOK AGAIN TO THE STREETS AND THE STRATEGY TO WEAKEN CHAVEZ IS STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO THAT EMPLOYED BY THE CIA IN IRAQ.

"THE COUP AGAINST CHAVEZ SHOULD WARN US ABOUT A POSSIBLE RUPTURE IN THE U.S. COMMITMENT TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY. THE SAME WASHINGTON POST REVEALED THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT IN VENEZUELA IN A PLOT THAT WAS AIMED AT ESTABLISHING A DICTATORSHIP THAT WOULD NOT RESPECT CONSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES. SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAS NOT HAPPENED IN LATIN AMERICA SINCE THE TIMES OF SOMOZA OR PINOCHET.

"HAS THE MODEL CHANGED? HOW MUCH WILL THIS NEW POLICY AFFECT AN ECUADOR THAT IS SUBMERGED IN PLAN COLOMBIA, WITH ITS MANTA BASE ORIENTED TOWARDS THE WAR AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING? HAS THE U.S. AN ALVARO

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URIPE IN STORE FOR ECUADOR? SHOULD WE PREPARE
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OURSELVES FOR AN A-LA-VENEZUELAN SOLUTION? THE WINDS
ARE CHANGING DIRECTION. WE SHOULD BE ALERT."

3. "AT THE EDGE OF THE ABYSS," AN OPINION COLUMN
(06/20) BY RODRIGO FIERRO BENITEZ IN QUITO'S LEADING
CENTRIST "EL COMERCIO" (CIRC. 70,000)

QUOTE: "ON. . . SEPTEMBER 11, THE GIANT FOUND OUT
THAT HE IS VULNERABLE AND THAT TERRORISTS OF ALL
TENDENCIES POSE A REAL, MORTAL DANGER. . .
INSECURITY, NOT THE COLD ANALYSIS OF THE FACTS, LED
AMERICA TO DECIDE ON ACTION BASED ON ITS STRENGTH,
BECAUSE IT KNOWS IT IS POWERFUL. AND WHAT IS EVEN
MORE SERIOUS, AMERICA FEELS THAT INDIVIDUAL FREEDOMS
AND CITIZENS' RIGHTS -PRECISELY ITS TRUE POWERFUL
WEAPONS- ARE WEAKNESSES AND IT HAS REACTED
ACCORDINGLY. PRESIDENT BUSH, WHO IS NOT A STATESMAN,
TURNS OUT TO BE THE IDEAL MAN TO LEAD THIS PARANOIA.
HE IS THE FLAG BEARER OF ACTIONS IN WHICH THE END
JUSTIFIES THE MEANS. HIS LATEST DECISION: TO USE
ASSASSINS TO GET RID OF HUSSEIN. IT IS THE DECLINE OF
THE EMPIRE OF FREE MEN."

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4. "STABILITY (AS) WORLD POLICY," AN EDITORIAL
(06/20) IN QUITO'S LEADING CENTRIST "EL COMERCIO"
(CIRC. 70,000)

QUOTE: "FROM THE TIME OF THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL
AND THE END OF THE SOVIET UNION UNTIL ONE DAY PRIOR
TO THE TERROR STRIKE AT THE CENTER OF NEW YORK, (THE
WORLD) LIVED IN AN ERA OF UNIPOLAR HEGEMONY. IT WAS
LED BY THE UNITED STATES, WITH RELATIVE WORLD PEACE
ONLY BROKEN BY THE CRUEL EPISODES PLAYED OUT IN THE
BALKANS AND IN SOME PARTS OF AFRICA.

"BUT, IN THE AFTERMATH OF LAST YEAR'S TRAGIC EVENT,
THE WORLD MAP HAS CHANGED. . . THIS FIGHT JUSTIFIED
BY PRINCIPLE, HAS ENTERED INTO A PHASE WHERE IT IS
DIFFICULT TO DISTINGUISH TERRORIST OR EXTREMISTS
GROUPS FROM THE STATES THAT HARBOR OR TOLERATE THEM,
RESULTING IN A RETURN TO THE FRAGILE CONDITION IN
WHICH NATION STATES EXISTED IN THE PAST.

"UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT IS NECESSARY TO
RECOVER THE HISTORICAL SERENITY AND PROMOTE LARGE
ALLIANCES, AS WAS DONE IN THE PAST, STRENGTHENED NOT
ONLY BY THE POWER OF WEAPONS, BUT ALSO BY THE VALUES
THAT HAVE IDENTIFIED THE WEST FOR MORE THAN THREE
CENTURIES.

"IN THIS DIFFICULT WORLD POLICY CONTEXT, SMALL
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COUNTRIES ONLY HAVE ONE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE
AND BE LISTENED TO. AND THAT IS BY JOINING BLOCKS
THAT WOULD OFFSET BILATERAL RELATIONS WHICH TEND TO

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BE DETRIMENTAL TO THOSE NATIONS CONSIDERED WEAK."

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